



NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
642 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina

DHEC (the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) is accepting public comments on a potential Voluntary Cleanup Contract until March 1, 2011.

The Voluntary Cleanup Contract, 10-5921-NRP, will affect approximately 2 acres identified by tax map number 461-13-03-005. The City of North Charleston ("City") intends to lease the property from its current owners and sublease the property to Meeting Street Academy ("MSA"). The City intends to purchase the Property within the next five years. This Voluntary Cleanup Contract will be between DHEC and co-applicants, the City and MSA.

The property was historically used by SCE&G as a power generation facility. General location uses around the property include residential, recreational, and commercial uses.

The City and MSA intend to build a school on the property. If this Voluntary Cleanup Contract is implemented, DHEC will allow the City to acquire the property as a "Brownfields Site" because of the potential for environmental pollution. Neither the City nor MSA created the pollution, but will take steps to control it to keep the property safe for re-use.

DHEC will not hold the City or MSA responsible for the pre-existing pollution in exchange for doing work under the Voluntary Cleanup Contract. Under State law, the City and MSA will not be responsible if anyone is affected by the contamination. Entering into this contract does not reduce the responsibility of any former owners or operators of the site.

Under the proposed contract, the City and MSA will test the groundwater beneath the property and place a soil cover over the property. If significant contamination is found, the City and MSA will be required to take additional steps to protect human health and the environment.

DHEC uses Voluntary Cleanup Contracts to keep Brownfield sites in productive reuse. Public comments on the proposed contracts help DHEC balance the environmental and redevelopment issues in the best interest of the state. The proposed contract is available at http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/public_notice.asp. Printed copies may be obtained from the DHEC Freedom of Information Office at (803) 898-3882.

Citizens may provide written, email, or telephone comments on the proposed contract until March 1, 2011. Questions or comments may be directed to Jerry Stamps, Project Manger, email stampsjm@dhec.sc.gov, telephone (803) 896-4285, or TOLL-FREE telephone (866) 576-3432. Written comments should be directed to Jerry Stamps at SCDHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.